

Sanitary Sewers, Manholes, and Laterals Investigation Project

Frequently Asked Questions



- **What kind of inspections are being?**
 - A Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) inspection will be conducted to look for potential defects in City-owned sanitary sewer pipes and sanitary laterals. Sanitary manholes will be visually inspected and photographed to also look for any defects.
- **Where are the inspections taking place?**
 - The first phase of inspections will be conducted in the Four Mile Run and Commonwealth Sewersheds, generally between Commonwealth Avenue and Route 1.
- **How long will the inspections take?**
 - We anticipate the first phase of inspections will occur from March of 2021 to December of 2021.
- **Who is doing the inspections?**
 - The City has hired Greeley and Hansen LLC, and its contractor, Mobile Dredging and Video Pipe Inc.
- **What will happen once the inspections are completed?**
 - Once inspections are completed, inspection results and reports will be reviewed by staff. The inspection reports will assist in developing a plan for rehabilitation of sanitary sewer pipes, City-owned laterals, and manholes. Sewer and manhole rehabilitation is anticipated to begin in 2022.
- **My home had experienced a sanitary sewer back-up due to extreme storm events over the past couple of years. Will this project prevent future sewer back-ups?**
 - The purpose of this program will help to preserve and protect the structural integrity of the sanitary sewer system in order to extend the useful life of sewers and to prevent pipe collapses and emergency repairs. A secondary benefit is that rehabilitating the sewer system typically results in a decrease in the amount of infiltration and inflow (I&I) that enters the sewers during periods of wet weather. However, the amount of I&I removed may not be sufficient to prevent sanitary sewer back-ups during periods of extreme wet weather. The City is moving forward with other initiatives as well to reduce I&I and reduce the potential for sanitary sewer back-ups. The City does offer 50 percent reimbursement, up to a maximum of \$2,000, to homeowners who install a sewer backflow preventer device on their sewer lateral to help protect against sewer back-ups. More information on this program can be found at <https://www.alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=105378>.

- **My home/neighborhood experienced stormwater flooding due to extreme storm events over the past couple of years. Will this project prevent future stormwater flooding events?**
 - This project only involves inspection and rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer system and does not address the storm sewer system. For information about the City's stormwater program, please visit alexandriava.gov/stormwater.
- **Who can I contact for more information?**
 - Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Mike Lee, Sanitary Infrastructure Division, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services at **703.746.4672** or by email at Mike.Lee@alexandria.gov.

